

Message Text

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TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER)

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HERewith FULL TEXT CROSBY S. NOYES COLUMN, WASHINGTON-STAR NEWS, TUESDAY, MAY 21, 1974:

2; THE ONE SURE THING THAT CAN BE ASSUMED ABOUT SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER'S APPARENT SUCCESS IN HIS MIDDLE EAST PEACE MISSION IS THAT HE WILL BE BACK IN THE AREA BEFORE LONG. IN A VERY SPECIAL WAY, THE SEARCH FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST EXEMPLIFIES THE ESSENCE OF HENRY KISSINGER'S APPROACH TO FOREIGN POLICY AND TIES IN MOST DIRECTLY AND SIGNIFICANTLY WITH CONCEPTS THAT HE REPRESENTS ON A GLOBAL SCALE.

3. THESE CONCEPTS ARE NOT ALWAYS VERY WELL UNDERSTOOD BY THE PUBLIC, EVEN THOUGH KISSINGER HIMSELF ENJOYS A WIDE MEASURE OF PERSONAL SUPPORT. THREE WORDS MOST COMMONLY ASSOCIATED WITH HIS POLICY - NEGOTIATION, ACCOMMODATION AND DETENTE - ARE SUBJECT TO A WIDE - AND OFTEN QUITE ERRONEOUS - RANGE OF INTERPRETATION.

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4. IT IS INSTRUCTIVE HOW THESE WORDS APPLY TO KISSINGER'S EFFORTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST. BECAUSE TO A VERY LARGE DEGREE; THEY HAVE EQUAL APPLICABILITY TO THE LARGER PROBLEMS THAT CONFRONT ALL GREAT WORLD POWERS TODAY.

5; NEGOTIATION, IN THE KISSINGER BOOK DOES NOT MEAN REPRESENTING THE PURELY PAROCHIAL INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES OR ANY OTHER NATION OR GROUP OF NATIONS. FROM THE BEGINNING, HIS ONLY CHANCE OF SUCCESS IN THE MIDDLE EAST HAS DEPENDED ON CONVINCING ALL THOSE INVOLVED - STARTING WITH THE EGYPTIANS - THAT HE IS MINDFUL OF AND SYMPATHETIC TO THEIR LEGITIMATE CONCERNS.

6. THE EFFORT TO IDENTIFY AND CULTIVATE A PERCEPTION OF A COMMON INTEREST IS FUNDAMENTAL TO THE KISSINGER APPROACH TO VIRTUALLY ALL INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS. THE PRINCIPLE APPLIES AS MUCH TO THE ATTEMPT TO REACH A LIMITATION ON STRATEGIC ARMS WITH THE RUSSIANS OR A RATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF ESSENTIAL RAW MATERIALS AS IT DOES TO THE PROBLEM OF SEPARATING ISRAELI AND SYRIAN FORCES ON THE GOLAN HEIGHTS.

7. ACCOMMODATION MEANS COMPROMISE--NOT WITH THE EXTREME DEMANDS OF ONE SIDE OR ANOTHER IN A CONFLICT--BUT RATHER WITH THIS PERCEPTION OF A COMMON INTEREST; IN THE CASE OF THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT, THIS IS, OF COURSE, THE MOST DIFFICULT AND PAINFUL PART OF THE WHOLE PROCESS AND IT IS ONLY GRADUALLY, IF AT ALL, THAT SUCCESS CAN BE ACHIEVED IN THE NEXT PHASE OF THE PEACE TALKS. IN THE CASE OF VIETNAM, FOR EXAMPLE, ONLY THE APPEARANCE OF SUCCESS WAS ACHIEVED AT A TIME WHEN APPEARANCES WERE OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE.BUT THE APPROACH WAS ESSENTIALLY THE SAME.

8. DETENTE--WHICH IS SURELY THE MOST ABUSED AND MISUNDERSTOOD TERM IN THE CURRENT FOREIGN POLICY LEXICON--IS BY NO MEANS, AS APPLIED TO THE MIDDLE EAST OR ANYTHING ELSE, A CONJURING AWAY OF EXISTING INTERNATIONAL TENSIONS. QUITE ON THE CONTRARY, THE TENSIONS THAT EXIST IN THE MIDDLE EAST, INCLUDING THE THREAT OF A NEW WAR, ARE UNCLASSIFIED

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ESSENTIAL TO THE SUCCESS OF KISSINGER'S EFFORT THERE. EVEN ON A GLOBAL SCALE, IT IS THE CONTROL AND THE MANIPULATION OF TENSIONS TO ACHIEVE ON OCCASION SOMETHING OF VALUE IN TERMS OF THE COMMON INTEREST THAT IS THE MAINSPRING OF KISSINGER'S FOREIGN POLICY.

9. THE OVERRIDING INTEREST AND CENTRAL OBJECTIVE OF THAT POLICY IS THE GRADUAL CREATION OF WHAT KISSINGER LIKES

TO CALL A "STRUCTURE OF PEACE"--AN INCREASINGLY STABLE, INTERDEPENDENT AND INSTITUTIONALIZED WORLD ORDER WITHIN WHICH CONFLICTS -- EVEN OF A SEEMINGLY UNRECONCILABLE NATURE--CAN BE MANAGED AND ACCOMMODATED; THAT THIS STRUCTURE IS STILL IN ITS INCIPIENT STAGE IS ONLY TOO APPARENT.

10. IT MAY BE THAT THIS APPROACH TO FOREIGN POLICY LACKS APPEAL TO SOME AMERICANS, COMPARED WITH THE HEROIC SIMPLICITIES OF THE PAST; I CANNOT AGREE, HOWEVER, WITH PROF. IRVING KRISTOL'S VERDICT THAT MOST AMERICANS ARE STILL HUNG UP ON THE OLD SPLIT BETWEEN "ISOLATIONISTS" AND "INTERVENTIONISTS" AND THAT KISSINGER'S PROBLEM IS THAT "AMERICAN OPINION ON FOREIGN POLICY IS PRACTICALLY ALL DISSENT AND NO CONSENSUS;"

11. ON THE CONTRARY, KISSINGER'S PECULIAR GENIUS, IT SEEMS TO ME, LIES IN HIS RECOGNITION OF THE FACT THAT THE TRADITIONAL EXTREMES OF AMERICAN POLICY ARE REJECTED TODAY AS WHOLLY IMPRACTICAL BY AN OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF THE POPULATION. THE PUBLIC MAY NOT ALWAYS UNDERSTAND EXACTLY WHAT KISSINGER IS UP TO IN PURSUIT OF OBJECTIVES THAT ARE NOT ALWAYS EASY TO DEFINE. BUT IT IS WIDELY UNDERSTOOD, I THINK, THAT A RETURN TO THE POLARIZED POLICIES OF THE PAST IS NEITHER POSSIBLE NOR DESIRABLE.

12. KISSINGER'S PROBLEM, IN SHORT, IS NOT WITH THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. ULTIMATELY, IT LIES WITH THE CONCEPTS OF A WORLD ORDER AS THEY ARE PERCEIVED IN MOSCOW AND PEKING. THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER NATIONS OF THE WEST ARE QUITE WILLING TO RECOGNIZE THAT THEIR OWN VALUES CANNOT BE IMPOSED ON ALL OTHER SOCIETIES IN THE WORLD.
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THE SUCCESS OF KISSINGER'S POLICIES WILL DEPEND ULTIMATELY ON WHETHER THE SAME REALITIES ARE RECOGNIZED AND ACCEPTED BY THE LEADERS OF CHINA AND THE SOVIET UNION, AND ON THAT POINT THE EVIDENCE IS FAR FROM CONCLUSIVE. (END TEXT)
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